



December 18, 2015

Mrs. Edie Findeis Cromwell
 Environmental Management Support, Inc.
 8601 Georgia Avenue, Suite 500
 Silver Spring, MD 20910
 Phone: (301-589-5318)

Re: City of Martinsville, Virginia
 EPA Brownfields Community Wide Assessment Grant Application

Dear Mrs. Cromwell:

The City of Martinsville is pleased to submit this letter and application for consideration for 2015 funding from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the Hazardous Substances and Petroleum Community-wide Assessment Grant. The Brownfield Assessment Grant will allow the City to revitalize the City through Brownfields redevelopment. This redevelopment will reduce threats to human health and the environment; improve the appeal of the community; restore properties to productive job-creating, tax-generating uses; and provide open space, cleaner waterways, and greenspace for the City. The City will use Grant monies to inventory and evaluate brownfields, determine the extent of the suspected contamination of the brownfields, establish remediation and cleanup plans for sites identified during this assessment phase, and continue a redevelopment program for sites identified for cleanup.

The City of Martinsville is surrounded by Henry County in southwestern Virginia, approximately 50 miles due south of Roanoke and roughly 10 miles north of the North Carolina state line. This now struggling city with a population of less than 14,000 within 11 square miles has a long history of productivity and significance. The tobacco industry arrived locally in the late 1700s and early 1800s and was Martinsville's first major industry. Known during that period as the 'Plug Tobacco Capital of the World', Martinsville enjoyed an overwhelming period of success. The furniture industry came onto the scene in Martinsville and Henry County just after the turn of the 20th century, spurring development, as well as creating a substantial employment base. Many well known furniture companies were located in the area as well as a DuPont Plant from 1941 to 1998. Outsourcing and relocation over the last 40 years has crippled the local economy. Martinsville has the highest unemployment and poverty rates in Virginia.

Additionally, the existing but unquantified brownfields pose potential substantial threats to the Smith River Basin due to the many industries and manufacturers located along these sensitive water resources. These surface water resources provide recharge to residential water wells. The redevelopment of the suspected brownfield sites along the surface water bodies will incorporate the creation of additional greenspace, parks and trails, and well-planned mixed use space.

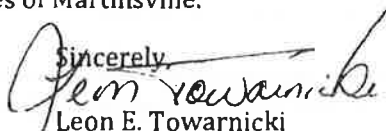
The Assessment Grant will allow the City to provide a cleaner environment and more employment opportunities to residents in the future, and continue to thrive both as an historical community and as an ideal place for business.

Enclosed please find an application for an EPA Brownfields Community Wide Assessment Grant for the City of Martinsville, Virginia.

Pertinent applicant information is as follows:

- a. Applicant: City of Martinsville
55 West Church Street
Martinsville, Virginia 24112
- b. Applicant DUNS: 065415614
- c. Funding Requested: i) Grant Type – Assessment
ii) Federal funds requested: \$400,000
iii) Contamination: Hazardous Substances and Petroleum (\$200,000 each)
iv) Community – Wide
- d. Location: City of Martinsville, Virginia
- e. Site Specific Information: Not Applicable
- f. Contacts: i) Project Director: Mr. Wayne Knox
Director of Community Development
P.O. Box 1112
Martinsville, VA 24114
Phone: (276) 656-5169
wknox@ci.martinsville.va.us
- ii) Chief Executive: Mr. Leon E. Towarnicki
City Manager
P.O. Box 1112
Martinsville, VA 24114
Phone: (276) 403-5155
ltowarnicki@ci.martinsville.va.us
- g. Date Submitted: On or before December 19, 2014
- h. Project Period: Three years
- i. Population: i) 13,821 (2010 United States Census)
- j. Special Considerations: Checklist attached

We in the City of Martinsville look forward to this partnership with EPA and the benefits that this grant funding will provide to the citizens and businesses of Martinsville.

Sincerely,

Leon E. Towarnicki
Martinsville City Manager

Enclosure

Cc: Tom Stolle, EPA Region 3

The City of Martinsville, Virginia
FY 2015 U.S. EPA Brownfield Assessment Grant
Application Hazardous Substances and Petroleum Grants

1. Community Need

a. Targeted Community and Brownfields

i. Targeted Community Description:

The City of Martinsville in southwestern Virginia has the highest unemployment and poverty rates in Virginia, coupled with a declining population that is aging. Martinsville is surrounded by Henry County, approximately 50 miles due south of Roanoke and roughly 10 miles north of the North Carolina state line. This now struggling city with a population of less than 14,000 within 11 square miles has a long history of productivity and significance. The tobacco industry arrived in the late 1700s and early 1800s and was the City's first major industry. Known during that period as the 'Plug Tobacco Capital of the World', the City enjoyed an overwhelming period of success. The furniture industry came onto the scene in the City and County just after the turn of the 20th century, spurring development, as well as creating a substantial employment base.

Well-known companies such as American of Martinsville, Bassett, Stanley and Hooker Furniture were started in Martinsville during the early decades of the 1900s. These companies brought substantial prosperity to the area. DuPont operated a major nylon manufacturing operation, commencing in 1941 employing up to 4,600 in the 1960s, and closing down in 1998.¹ During the 1960s the combined area of Martinsville and Henry County was reportedly responsible for producing roughly 60% of sweatshirts worldwide.²

Realignment of trade rules and the related outsourcing and relocation of operations over the past 40 years have crippled the local economy. Many of the large textile and furniture industries have and are continuing to close plants and distribution centers in Martinsville, and those that have remained have been continuously reducing employees. This has caused not only a large and steady decline in population, but has forced many local families and individuals into poverty. This city once full of manufacturing operations, factories, and distribution centers is a shell of its former self. Many of these headquarters and facilities find themselves vacant, providing no positive benefits to a struggling community. These deteriorating properties provide ample opportunity for local revitalization, but a lack of available funds has proven to be a hurdle.

While the primary target for the funding will be former manufacturing sites south of the Uptown area and the most deprived tracts of the city (Census tract 2 being the most impoverished), there are opportunities to revitalize blighted properties in virtually every corner of the city. In preparation for the grant, the project team has been receiving positive feedback from property owners of potential brownfield sites to be used in the program. These sites are typically focused in the West Church Street Corridor, and areas adjacent to the Uptown Revitalization area. Martinsville has the available properties, workforce, educational opportunities, and dedicated staff to make great strides in redevelopment with Brownfields funding.

ii. Demographic Information

A small community of 13,821, according to the 2010 Census, the demographics of Martinsville are staggeringly different than those of Virginia and the United States. The Henry County-Martinsville area is considered "At Risk" by the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC). A lack of employment opportunities and the corresponding poverty are glaring problems facing the community. Martinsville's unemployment rate, currently 11.1%, is the highest in the state, greatly surpasses the national unemployment rate and more than doubles Virginia's unemployment rate. Serious economic repercussions come hand in hand with such an elevated

¹ <http://www.martinsvillebulletin.com/article.cfm?ID=31527>

² <http://www.visitmartinsville.com/Textile-Heritage.html>

City of Martinsville, Virginia

unemployment rate, as witnessed by a median household income of less than half of Virginia's average. The entire city has been declared an Enterprise Zone by the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development because of the extreme distressed condition.

Table 1: Demographic Overview

	<u>Census Tract 2</u>	<u>Martinsville</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	<u>United States</u>
Population*	2,247	13,821	8,001,024	308,745,538
Unemployment***	-----	13.7%	5.0%	6.6%
Poverty Rate**	57.1%	28%	11.1%	14.9%
Percent Minority*	92.4%	49.9%	31.4%	26.7%
Black or African Am.****	-----	45%	19.7%	-----
Hispanic or Latino****	-----	4.4%	8.6%	-----
Home Ownership Rate ****	-----	53.7%	67.3%	-----
Free Lunches at School	-----	49%	31%	-----
SNAP percentage (2010)	-----	32%	-----	-----
Median Household Income**	\$14,750	\$28,840	\$63,636	\$53,046
Population 65 and Older*	19.1%	19.2%	12.2%	13.0%

*2010 US Census Bureau **US Census Bureau Fact Finder 2008-2012 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

*** November 2013 (preliminary, not seasonally adjusted), Bureau of Labor and Statistics, Mid-Atlantic Information Office

**** <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/51000.html> USDA. Food Environment Atlas

Population balance is another serious demographic issue facing Martinsville. The number of Martinsville residents aged 65 and older is over 50% greater than the state average. Further worsening the problem, there is not a strong young population in Martinsville to balance out the aged portion of the population. With most of the workers in the 65 and older category either retired or approaching retirement, there needs to be a young base to provide future financial support to the city. These trends will perpetuate the pattern of declining total population in Martinsville, as shown in Section 3.

Table 2: Age and Education Demographics

	<u>Martinsville</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	<u>United States</u>
Population Under 18	21.4%	23.2%	24.0%
Population 65 and Over	19.2%	12.2%	13.0%
With HS Degree or Higher*	79.2%	86.9%	85.7%
With Bachelor's Degree or Higher*	17.9%	34.7%	28.5%

American Fact Finder, US Census Bureau

*Age 25 years and older

Martinsville's disadvantages include education deficiencies. Over 20% of Martinsville's population aged 25 and older has not completed high school (or equivalency); and alarmingly over 80% of that same age bracket has not received at least a Bachelor's degree. Both of these values are well below both their Virginia and United States counterparts. While the City's population increased through the 1960s with the localized manufacturing boom, the US Census data shows population decreases following the 1970 through the most recent Census in 2010.

Table 3: Population Trends (People) from US Census Bureau

US Census Data	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000	2010
Martinsville	18,798	19,653	18,149	16,192	15,416	13,821
Virginia	3,966,949	4,648,494	5,346,818	6,187,358	7,078,515	8,001,024
United States	179,323,175	203,211,926	226,545,805	248,709,873	281,421,906	308,745,538

City of Martinsville, Virginia

During an interval where the populations of Virginia and of the United States increased by approximately 70% and 50%, respectively, the population of Martinsville has decreased by approximately 30%. This shrinking population has left the city unable to pull together resources and fund the efforts necessary for a large-scale revitalization.

Table 4: Population Trends (Percentage)

Change in Population (%) Between Census Years	1960- 1970	1970- 1980	1980- 1990	1990- 2000	2000- 2010	Total Change 1970-2010
Martinsville	+4.5%	-7.7%	-10.9%	-4.6%	-10.3%	-29.7%
Virginia	+17.2%	+15.0%	+15.7%	+14.4%	+13.0%	+72.1%
United States	+13.3%	+11.5%	+9.8%	+13.2%	+9.7%	+51.9%

iii. Brownfields

The City of Martinsville has been impacted by brownfields throughout the entire community. The loss of industry has devastated the community and left many vacant industrial buildings. Both manufacturing and support industries for those workers have been decimated over the last several decades, leaving often abandoned, potentially contaminated, deteriorating structures as obstructions to redevelopment.

Many of the potential brownfields are located in the targeted areas, the former manufacturing areas just south of the Uptown Revitalization Area. Included in these are the former Sara Lee plant (app. 15 acres), the former American Furniture plant (app. 6 acres), the Wingfield Street factory (4.7 acres), and the V.M. Draper vacant pallet factory (app. 12 acres). These sites lie adjacent to the Uptown area and residential areas well below the state average (census tracts 2, 3, and 4). These sites could still be contributing to contamination in the adjacent neighborhoods.

Many of these brownfield sites are likely to be contaminated due to their former uses. At its height during times of less stringent environmental requirements, the former operations at these sites are indicators of potential contamination such as underground storage tanks (USTs), dumping, soil and groundwater contamination from metals and volatile organic compounds. Particulate settling from air pollution and groundwater and sediment contamination from contaminated stormwater runoff are also likely contaminants in portions of the target community adjacent to former manufacturing plants. Specific contaminants at these sites likely include PAHs, PCBs, PCE, TCE, as well as metals such as arsenic, lead, chromium, and mercury. Additionally, based on the age of these remaining buildings, they are likely to have hazardous building materials such as asbestos and lead-based paint.

iv. Cumulative Environmental Issues

Many other cumulative environmental issues pose significant risk of exposure to residents. The exposure risks are a result of impacts from the industrial past of many properties in the City. These include releases from UST sites, particulate matter that has settled on the soil surface from prior air pollution, illegal dumping of industrial waste in areas that could be utilized as green space, and stormwater runoff from industrial sites. A major concern as a result of pollution in the City is contamination of the Smith River adjacent to the nearby former DuPont facility as well as its tributaries, Jones Creek, Doe Run Creek, and Rugg Creek, which drains much of Martinsville. The portion of the Smith River that forms the southern border of the City is listed as an impaired waterway for fish, shellfish, wildlife protection/propagation, and recreation by the EPA. Water and sediment contamination also pose a threat to residents that fish or play in the river. According to the EPA website, Envirofacts, there are 68 EPA-regulated facilities in the

City. Most of the facilities are located in the central and northern part of the City. This area overlaps areas of the city with high cancer, diabetes and heart disease rates.

b. Impacts on Targeted Communities

Exposure to contaminants from brownfields through various pathways may cause a wide range of adverse health effects to the residents. For example, total death, cancer, diabetes, and heart disease rates for the City are higher than in Western Piedmont and Virginia. Exposure to contaminants from brownfield sites are considered a contributing factor to the observed impacts. Contaminants likely to be found on these sites are toxic or carcinogenic such as certain PAHs, PCB, PCE, and metals. These compounds are also associated with higher diabetes and heart disease rates. A high percentage of those living near brownfields are low-income and minorities which are sensitive populations disproportionately impacted by the adverse health effects.

Table 5: Health Statistics				
	Total Death Rate per 100,000 for 2012	Cancer Death Rate 2012	Diabetes Rate 2012	Heart Disease Rate 2012
Virginia	725	164	19	157
West Piedmont	879	181	27	201
Martinsville	1131	278	63	243

Virginia Department of Health (VDH) – <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/healthstats/Martinsville12.htm>

As shown in Table 6, the City's census tracts distinguish high need neighborhoods. Tract 2 has an overwhelmingly minority population, 95.6%, and the lowest median household income, \$17,926. Unfortunately this tract also has the smallest percentage of residents with a high school degree, 55.9%. In such a heavily disadvantaged portion of the City, funding for property revitalization is severely needed. These areas also have disproportionately smaller amount of recreation and open space leading to elevated obesity rates. Southwest Virginia has the highest regional childhood obesity rate in the State (28%) according to a 2010 VDH obesity survey.

Table 6: Demographics by Census Tract										
	Tract 1		Tract 2		Tract 3		Tract 4		Tract 5	
	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000	1990	2000
Population:	3,796	3,672	3,595	2,879	2,804	2,860	2,635	2,841	3,332	3,164
% White	65.1	54.1	6.1	4.4	76.1	63	81.5	61.4	94.9	90.9
% Black	34.5	44.4	93.5	94.2	23.3	34.1	18	35.4	4.7	7.5
% Other	0.4	1.6	0.3	1.4	0.7	2.9	0.5	3.2	0.5	1.5
% W/ HS Degree	54.5	60.4	46.4	55.9	67.4	74.4	50.5	57.2	93.6	91.9
% W/ Bachelor's Degree +	4.4	6	7.9	6.2	18.3	16.2	4.2	4.7	42.3	49.9
Median Household Income (\$)	\$20,422	\$25,429	\$16,549	\$17,926	\$19,574	\$25,896	\$18,539	\$23,551	\$47,589	\$54,755

City of Martinsville, Virginia 2009 Comprehensive Plan Update

According to the Mesothelioma Center, Henry County which surrounds Martinsville has an elevated risk of environmental asbestos exposure. Due to the current and former manufacturing plants in Martinsville's low-income and minority neighborhoods, it is likely that air pollutants from brownfields sites have contributed to this exposure via inhalation, ingestion of particulates and vapor intrusion pathways.

The health impacts from environmental pollutants are greater for low income and minority populations in Martinsville. As can be seen from the tables for the health and economics of Martinsville, the City, especially Tract 2, has some of the worst conditions in the state and region. The high level of unemployment that results in deep poverty levels and serious health concerns is aggravated by an aging population and lack of industry. The City is caught in a poverty cycle with an exodus to the surrounding county, leaving blighted and contaminated properties behind. The resulting brownfields cause safety hazards, affect individual health and prevent access to fresh, healthy food, and recreational areas. In addition, there is a high possibility that exposure to air and groundwater pollutants from the brownfield sites have played a pivotal role in the high death, cancer, diabetes and heart disease rates in Martinsville.

c. Financial Need

i. Economic Conditions

The major financial issue is the decrease of available jobs/revenues due to lack of employment opportunities that are needed to support redevelopment. A good example of this is the 2012 plant closure of MasterBrand Cabinets that cost the area 335 jobs. These issues disproportionately impact impoverished neighborhoods with higher levels of minorities. Martinsville's population data shows decreases following the 1970s Census through the most recent 2010 Census. During an interval where the populations of Virginia and of the United States increased by approximately 70% and 50%, respectively, the population of Martinsville has decreased by approximately 30% (see I. a. ii.). This shrinking population has left the City with shrinking income and eliminated local resources. The loss of manufacturing and other supporting employment in the area has also left the City in dire financial need and left blighted properties needing re-use.

Table 7: Economic Indicators (US Census Bureau, 2010 Data)			
Financial Benchmark	<u>Martinsville</u>	<u>Virginia</u>	<u>Percent Difference</u>
Median Household Income	\$28,840	\$63,636	-54.7%
Per Capita Income	\$20,132	\$33,326	-39.6%
Families Below Poverty Level	23.7%	7.8%	303.8%
Individuals Below Poverty Level	28%	11.1%	252.3%
Average Hourly Wage	\$14.45	\$24.20	-40.3%
Average Annual Wage	\$30,056	\$50,336	-40.3%

With falling property values based on a small and shrinking population and the worst unemployment in the state, at 11.1 percent in 2014 (VA Employment Commission – Local area Statistics) the City has been unable to raise the necessary funds to assess and redevelop the brownfields. The City is stretched paying for vital municipal services such as fire and police and lacks the resources to independently fund brownfields assessment or redevelopment.

ii Economic Effects of Brownfields

This shrinking city as demonstrated in the demographic tables above has financial resources well below the majority of the state. Economic indicators such as employment, median income, and poverty rate illustrate just a portion of the problems the City has been presented with. While a median household income for the state of Virginia is \$63,636, the city of Martinsville's is \$28,840, a mere 45% of the state average. Unfortunately low household incomes lead to poverty.

Families have been hit hard by the bleak economic times; living in poverty at levels over 300% greater than the state as a whole. Workers in Martinsville are paid approximately 60 cents to the dollar when compared with all workers in Virginia. Brownfields properties lie vacant in neighborhoods, producing only blight and danger instead of tax revenue. A recent fire at the former American Furniture factory resulted in blight. These blights to the neighborhoods cause community disinvestment as well as a burden on municipal services.

As these extremely tough economic times persist within the City, it becomes increasingly difficult for the local government to function; its tax base is constantly shrinking which provides a burden on municipal services. The introduction of brownfield redevelopment funding will not only allow for the creation of jobs and income for struggling families, but will increase the local taxable base, further improving the local quality of life.

While the decline in employment has been occurring for a number of years, there was a 66.7% decrease in the number of workers employed in manufacturing from 2000 to 2005. Without the employers to fuel the local economy, homes, neighborhoods and retail areas have slid into decline. With the highest unemployment level in Virginia, Martinsville has vacant properties and storefronts with deteriorated infrastructure and idle, obsolete buildings. This further reduces the tax base for the City. The entire city has been declared an Enterprise Zone because of the extreme distressed condition. The presence of brownfields throughout the City contributes to the issues by lowering property values and inhibiting the growth of equity assets.

2. Project Description and Feasibility of Success

a. Project Description i. Project Description

Once a thriving center of manufacturing in southwest Virginia, Martinsville today shows the effects of closed manufacturing plants, high unemployment and a disproportionate number of residents in the community living below the poverty level. The Brownfields Assessment grant is anticipated to provide powerful monetary support to allow the City to pursue its goals to provide its citizens with new development and the economic benefit of mixed use patterns.

Redevelopment will invigorate the City and bring new life to the area while reducing threats to human health and the environment. The grant will be used to improve the appeal of the City to existing and new residents, and provide needed healthy alternatives to the lifestyle of the residents. Restoration of properties and redevelopment will turn vacant parcels into productive, job-creating, tax-generating uses.

Martinsville is just above the micro city level with 13,821 residents. With 40 years of declining population, all sections of the City have deteriorated. Most severely hit has been the reduction in the number of families with young children. There has been an out migration of younger people making the median age rise faster than the surrounding communities. The City has been determined to make the best of the aging population by marketing themselves as a retirement community and developing a new Residential Retirement District. The Brownfields program will help develop this district and consistently support the goals of high quality of life, low cost of living and affordable healthcare.

The Brownfields Assessment grant will support the City initiative to encourage entrepreneurs to establish businesses in the City. By evaluating existing properties that are difficult to redevelop due to the perception of environmental issues, the grant will make these properties attractive for people to bring underutilized properties back into service and active members of the tax base. The City will use the EPA grant funds to complete public outreach, select targeted properties that

City of Martinsville, Virginia

are in key areas where redevelopment would have a broad impact, and complete due diligence efforts for both public and private sector interests. As important as the due diligence effort, the funds will be used to complete any redevelopment and remediation planning to maximize the opportunity for redevelopment. Due diligence efforts include Phase I ESAs (14 estimated) and Phase II ESAs (six estimated) as well as any additional delineation sampling. Assessments are considered complete when the contamination or the perception of contamination has been defined and is understood. Sites will be entered into the Virginia Voluntary Remediation program as applicable when the need for remediation is present.

Community Need	Outcomes
Reduction in number of residents living below poverty level	Jobs creation through redevelopment
Increased tax revenue	Redevelopment of unused properties through entrepreneurial investment
Retirement options for aging population	Housing development in a Residential Retirement District
Elimination of health concerns and promotion of a healthy lifestyle	Elimination of environmental risks from exiting brownfield properties and creation of healthy alternatives

Due to the small size of the City, it is anticipated that the funds will be available for use in any area, but will be targeted in the areas with the highest health concerns in the middle and northern sections of the City. During the evaluation process, the opportunity to group projects in a smaller area to increase the impact will be evaluated. Some of the funds will also be used for 'key' properties that will be fundamental in neighborhood turn around, consistent with the Comprehensive Plan. The objective is to use the planned prioritization process to select sites that will have the biggest impact and thus make them more appealing to commercial ventures.

ii. Project Timing

The City of Martinsville will be the grantee with an already assembled project team from within the City personnel. The project team will be responsible for preparing a work plan, a project financial accounting and reporting system, and implementation of a request for qualifications (RFQ) process consistent with federal procurement regulations to procure the services of a QEC. It is anticipated that the EPA reporting and RFQ process will take two months from grant award. Community outreach will begin immediately with a community meeting set within a month of procurement of a QEC. This meeting will include interested developers to allow for immediate site selection into the program.

The QEC will assist the City with quarterly report preparation, tracking and measuring progress as well as maximizing MBE-WBE utilization and reporting outcomes in the Assessment, Cleanup, and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES). The steering committee measure and track the projects as they progress and will evaluate progress semi-annually on expenditure of funds and the impacts of completed assessments. It is anticipated that the progress of the grant implementation will be discussed with the project team on at least a quarterly basis, with more frequent and regular meetings between the QEC and the leader of the steering committee. These regular meetings and task oriented approach will ensure project completion within three years.

iii. Site Selection

Funding of projects and site selection will be based on several factors that will be used to prioritize and distribute funds. These factors will include but not be limited to the following: community input; potential for environmental contamination; potential for redevelopment consistent with the 2009 Comprehensive Plan; location; size; potential to provide a large impact to an area (i.e. a key project); and known interest from a developer, particularly a developer with a history of success. The community will be involved in the input process, but the City Steering Committee will make the site selections, keeping in mind the redevelopment plan objectives as set forth in the Comprehensive Plan. Since several potential sites have been identified by the City through direct contact of property owners by City leaders, these sites will likely be assessed first, based on the highest level of perceived contamination and redeveloped based on market interest. While all sizes of projects will be evaluated and pursued, it is likely that smaller, infill projects that will be more attractive to developers. The City will embrace these smaller projects as they can have a large impact on the surrounding properties. An even greater impact can be created with grouping of complementary projects in an area. Site access will be obtained through direct outreach from the City leadership, the community organizations, and the QEC.

b. Task Description and Budget Table

i. Task Description Hazardous Materials and Petroleum Task Descriptions:

Task 1– Programmatic Cost: A total of \$3,000 in travel expenses (each) is estimated for programmatic costs. These costs include attendance of two people at two EPA annual Brownfield conferences at an average cost of \$1,200 per person. Additionally, the City will use \$1,200 to attend annual meetings at the EPA offices for reporting and assessments compliance criteria. The City will provide additional in-kind money and staff resources associated with documenting the brownfields site information and data within the City’s GIS database; coordinating and conducting operational meetings, and other activities associated with grant inventory and assessment functions. Labor costs for these in-kind services are valued at \$5,000 to \$7,000.

Task 2– Community Outreach and Involvement: Involvement of key stakeholders and the general public is necessary for a successful brownfield assessment program. A total of \$2,000 (each) is estimated for community outreach and QEC procurement. This will also cover the cost of supplies associated with community outreach, including public meetings, a brownfield project website, implementing meaningful public involvement; publishing public notices; preparing meeting presentations; and distributing useful materials. The City will provide staff resources to conduct outreach meetings, draft press releases, and generally present the project to the community. The City will use a formal procurement process to hire a QEC. The contractual line item addresses the cost of the process, including publishing the RFQ in the local paper and on the City website, evaluating proposals, and processing and awarding the contract.

Task 3– Site Assessment Activities: The cost associated with site selection is \$4,000 (each task) in services from the retained QEC. Sites will be identified through data collection, community nominations, and ground surveys. Then, the sites will be prioritized for Phase I ESAs, and eligibility determinations will be made. The Phase I ESAs will be conducted in accordance with industry ASTM1527-13 (All Appropriate Inquiry) standards. The cost of this is based on conducting app. 7 Phase I ESAs at an average price of \$5,000, for a total cost of \$35,000 (each).

The QEC will be responsible for providing the EPA the necessary Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), Sampling and Analysis Plans (SAP), and Health and Safety Plans (HASp) for the project. The QEC will perform the Phase II ESAs in accordance with guidelines maintained by

the Virginia DEQ and VRP. The estimated cost per investigation is difficult to estimate at this time, but we estimate the average site to cost \$42,000 per site for a total of \$126,000 (each). The contractual line item addresses the cost of contracting the QEC to complete the Phase II ESAs.

Task 4— Remediation/ Redevelopment Planning: This task addresses preparation of a Remedial Action Plan for three of the assessed properties. This task also addresses redevelopment planning used to help the property achieve the most successful and desirable use and also help attract developers to the property. The contractual line item addresses the cost of a QEC to prepare the Remedial Action Plan in accordance with DEQ and VRP guidelines and the redevelopment plan. The cost of these plans will vary but this grant will likely provide remedial action and reuse planning for approximately three sites at an average cost of \$10,000, for a total of \$30,000.

ii. Budget Table

Hazardous Substances and Petroleum Assessment Project Tasks					
Budget Categories	Task1 Programmatic Costs	Task 2 Community Outreach	Task 3 Site Assessment Activities	Task 4 Rem/ Redevelop Planning	Total Budget
Hazardous					
Personnel (Haz)					
Fringe Benefits (Haz)					
Travel (Haz)	\$3,000				\$3,000
Equipment (Haz)					
Supplies (Haz)		\$500			\$500
Contractual (Haz)		\$1,500	\$165,000	\$30,000	\$196,500
Other (Haz)					
Total (Haz)	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$165,000	\$30,000	\$200,000
Petroleum					
Personnel (Pet)					
Fringe Benefits (Pet)					
Travel (Pet)	\$3,000				\$3,000
Equipment (Pet)					
Supplies (Pet)		\$500			\$500
Contractual (Pet)		\$1,500	\$165,000	\$30,000	\$196,500
Other (Pet)					
Total (Pet)	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$165,000	\$30,000	\$200,000

c. Ability to Leverage

Martinsville's brownfield program will complement the 2009 Comprehensive Plan Update, which outlines the City's present and future needs. The Assessment Grant will be an invaluable catalyst for redevelopment or reuse of underutilized and blighted City areas. For other redevelopment or revitalization projects, the City has been able to partner with Federal, State, and local organizations to provide leveraged funding. The City can capture incremental taxes

generated by brownfield redevelopment to reimburse developers for many of the excess costs associated with redeveloping a brownfield site. Additionally, the Virginia Tax Increment Financing (TIF) statute allows communities to capture additional incremental taxes from successful brownfield redevelopments and place them into a community brownfield fund. This fund can be used for loans or grants at later phases of redevelopment or on other sites.

Martinsville also has access to the following state and federal brownfield redevelopment programs to help fund or offset associated costs, these include: EPA Cleanup Grants, EPA Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grant, Additional EPA Assessment Grants (Future), Brownfield Economic Development Initiative (BEDI), Virginia Pooled Financing Program, Brownfield Remediation Loan Program, Clean Water Revolving Loan Fund (CWRLF) Program, and the VA Petroleum Storage Tank Fund.

Potential local sources of leveraged funding include community organizations such as: the Phoenix Community Development Corporation, which has helped fund other revitalization efforts within the city, such as the Henry Hotel (an adaptive reuse project), the City's CDBG projects (two implementation projects and one planning grant), the Fayette Area Historical Initiative; The Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation, and the Martinsville Uptown Revitalization Association.

Current leveraged funding for projects adjacent to the target area for this grant includes the New College Institute (NCI) Expansion Project and the Uptown Revitalization Project. For the NCI Expansion, the community was able to raise over 16 million dollars from the following sources: The Harvest Foundation, VA Tobacco Commission, EDA, CDBG, Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC), and other private donors. The Uptown Revitalization Project was able to raise approximately 1.4 million dollars from the following: CDBG grant, Harvest Foundation, and Phoenix CDC. Documentation for this funding is included in attachment D.

3. Community Engagement and Partnership

a. Plan for Involving Targeted Community & Other Stakeholders; and Communicating Project Progress

i. Community Involvement Plan

The City has designated a target area to concentrate this grant, but the entire community is to benefit. Upon winning the grant, the City will place a notice in the local newspaper and hold a public meeting to enlist the opinion of all of the stakeholders, which include: residents, business owners, developers, community health organizations, and other community groups. At least one public meeting per year of the program will be planned, and additional meetings for big announcements as warranted. The meetings will be centrally held in a location at an hour that is convenient for the entire community and working public to attend. The City is not aware of a significant non-English speaking population, but a translator can be available if necessary.

The City has partnered with several community organizations to assist in engaging these stakeholders (section 3.c). In particular, residents of the neighborhoods in and surrounding the target area are vital for the project. To engage residents, the City will also establish a social media presence (Facebook/ LinkedIn) for the grant, allowing the community to interact with the steering committee. A website will be created and a link will be established to this from the websites of the City and community organizations. Members of the steering committee and/or the QEC will attend local community meetings to inform the public about the grant and receive

input. This input will be used in the site selection process. A grant factsheet will be created to distribute at these meetings and in the community.

ii. Communicating Progress

As stated in section 3.a.i. above, the City will use several methods to communicate the progress of the brownfields project to the public and target community. The City will advertise meetings in the local newspaper and provide online presence (Facebook/LinkedIn) including a website with links from the City and community organization websites. An online presence is especially effective at reaching the target population based on the free wifi supplied by the City in the Uptown Revitalization area. Public meetings will be advertised in the local newspaper and in the online presence and scheduled throughout the program. Additionally, members of the steering committee will speak about the program in various community meetings.

b. Partnerships with Government Agencies **i. Local/State/Tribal Environmental Authority**

Martinsville has maintained a strong working relationship with the Virginia DEQ for years. The City worked with the DEQ to obtain and use a grant from the Virginia Brownfields Assistance Fund Program in 2012. The DEQ administers the State brownfields programs as well as the VRP programs. The City will get DEQ to provide site eligibility letter for petroleum sites, review environmental reports, provide technical expertise, and get each of the applicable brownfield sites entered into the VRP. Compliance with Virginia's VRP helps assure protection of public health and the environment during remediation and/or redevelopment of brownfields in Virginia. The VRP requires any reuse of the property to protect human health and prevent migration of contamination. Contaminant-specific, risk-based cleanup criteria for protection of human health and the environment are established for residential, commercial, and industrial uses of property. The VRP also provides guidance for protecting public health and the environment through use of engineering controls, which can be incorporated into redevelopment planning.

The West Piedmont Area Health District (WPAHD) provides coverage for the City of Martinsville and Henry, Franklin, and Patrick Counties. Martinsville and WPAHD are involved in environmental health and brownfield redevelopment issues facing the City. The Martinsville Health Department has been actively involved in education/notification, testing and monitoring, and exposure evaluations related to environmental issues. For example, the WPAHD has experience with disease prevention, health promotion, and environmental protection programs, and has designed and conducted community notification and education programs. The Health Departments, along with DEQ, have been involved with evaluating and mapping contamination, including contaminated private water wells that are in close proximity to brownfield sites.

ii. Other Relevant Governmental Partnerships

Martinsville has partnered with many federal and state organizations for support and funding to help revitalize the community. The City has two grants with Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD): a Neighborhood Stabilization Program 3 grant of \$263,888 and a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for the Northside Neighborhood Planning Grant of \$30,000. The City used a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program grant for \$144,450 to install a Public Warning System that covers all of the City to warn citizens of impending danger. The Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) has provided \$600,000 of IRF funds to provide gap financing for renovation of the former Henry Hotel. Martinsville will continue working with the DOT to maintain and grow the Dick and Willie Passage Rail Trail and the associated Uptown Spur Trail.

The City also plans to contract with a QEC with knowledge and experience with the brownfields assessment grant process and working relationships with Region III and DEQ personnel.

c. Partnership with Community Organizations

i. Community Organization Description & Role

The City of Martinsville will partner with several different types of community organizations to ensure this brownfields assessment grant will provide the most benefit to the entire community. Five organizations, chosen to reflect the unique characteristics of the City have agreed to be project partners for the Community assessment:

- 1) **Carilion Clinic**, as detailed in section 2, A, III, will support the project in many ways, such as public outreach, staff and volunteer time at meetings, and public education support. Curtis Mills, Senior Vice President, (540) 981-7204.
- 2) **Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation (EDC)** is committed to making Martinsville-Henry County a prosperous region. The EDC will be involved in the assessment grant through public outreach, hosting public meetings and attracting potential developers to stimulate redevelopment of brownfield sites. Mark Heath, President/ CEO, (276) 403-5940.
- 3) **West Piedmont Planning District Commission (PDC)** is comprised of Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties the Cities of Danville and Martinsville, and Town of Rocky Mount. The PDC will be involved with the Brownfield project by public education on a regional basis, hosting meetings, promoting agenda time in Commission meetings for Project updates and helping attract potential developers to redevelopment projects. David R. Hoback, Executive Director (276) 638-3987.
- 4) **Dan River Basin Association** is a non-profit organization promoting the cultural and natural resources of the region. They will assist with public education and community interaction and feedback. Tiffany Haworth, Executive Director, (276) 634-2545.

ii. Letters of Commitment: (See Attachments)

4. Project Benefits

a. Health and/or Welfare and Environment

i. Health and/or Welfare Benefits

The City has a one of the highest rates of cancer, diabetes and heart disease (Table 5). The City will use the brownfields grant to investigate the sources of contamination in the community. When brownfields funds are used to revitalize sites, the improved property value and condition allows for neighborhood pride, crime reduction and further positive impact. Once the blight and illicit activities are removed, the safety of the neighborhood increases and the residents have the opportunity to lead a healthier lifestyle including outdoor physical activity. Communities with increased opportunity for physical activity have the tools that are necessary to combat obesity. Brownfield sites play an important role in promoting a healthy lifestyle.

By facilitating remediation and redevelopment of Brownfields in sensitive areas, potential exposures to the at risk populations of children living in poverty and older adults, to contaminants will be eliminated reducing risk of exposure and improving the long term health of

the community. Health threats from direct contact, inhalation, and indoor vapor intrusion of site contaminants can be eliminated. Risks from contaminants like lead, asbestos, and volatile organics will be mitigated on these sites, possibly reducing infant mortality rates, sources of Asthma, incidents of elevated blood lead levels, and cancer among residents of this community.

ii. Environmental Benefits

The environmental benefits from an EPA brownfields assessment grant are clear. Properties will be assessed to determine their risk of contamination during a Phase I ESA. If deemed necessary, a Phase II will be conducted that will determine the lateral and vertical extent of any contamination onsite. Once completed, remediation and redevelopment planning can begin.

Many of the proposed brownfields sites in the City are former furniture manufacturing facilities that may have contributed to soil, groundwater, and/or air pollution. Potential contaminants on these sites include petroleum constituents, volatile and semi-volatile organic compounds, PCBs, and metals. Assessment and remediation planning will begin controlling exposures to this contamination, thereby bettering the health and welfare of its residents and natural resources. This will help improve the air, soil, groundwater, and surface water in the target community.

b. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/ Sustainable Reuse

i. Planning, Policies, and Other Tools

Sustainability principles such as matching land uses to available infrastructure and protecting natural resources and greenspace will be utilized with this grant. The Comprehensive Plan calls for smart growth using compact, transit oriented, walkable, bicycle-friendly land use, including mixed-use developments. Smart growth practices promote in-fill and redevelopment opportunities as well as mixed used districts with retail or commercial space on the first floor combined with residential units on subsequent floors.

The Martinsville Comprehensive Plan Update calls for the following brownfield oriented goals: development and expansion of identified target business clusters in health care, plastics manufacturing, tourism, logistics, and food processing; develop exiting business resources; encourage redevelopment of vacant buildings and industrial sites; complete the network of walking and biking trails; encourage infill development of vacant lots for new residential housing; develop additional multi-family units for low to moderate income families; continue development of trails in the City, working with Harvest Foundation, VDOT and others as sources of funding; continue to develop a transit system, so that the community has inexpensive, accessible transit options for the community's transit-dependent constituencies.

Reuse of the industrial or commercial brownfield sites will enable reuse of the existing infrastructure for new uses. The City will encourage the use of green remediation techniques during redevelopment and green stormwater management techniques. The city will encourage the use of efficient HVAC and lighting systems to reduce energy usage and costs for occupants. Plans call for the existing railroad spur to be converted into a trail for walking and biking.

ii. Integrating Equitable Development or Livability Principles

Martinsville's approach to revitalize its brownfield sites will incorporate livability principles from the Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC). The city encourages sustainable reuse by promoting local contractors, resources, and building materials; green buildings; energy efficiency; and preservation. Mixed use is planned for the brownfields, which will improve employment opportunities and offer additional affordable housing opportunities. The reuse of

these blighted properties will help reduce potentially contaminated stormwater runoff and illegal dumping on abandoned properties as well as provide value for the community and neighborhood.

c. Economic and Community Benefits (long term benefits)

i. Economic or Non-Economic Benefits

As a city that is entirely an Enterprise Zone, brownfields redevelopment is key to Martinsville's economic revitalization and future growth. The use of assessment grant funds will result in revitalization of properties and economic benefits for City residents through creation of local job opportunities, stimulation of economic activity, and expanding the tax base. These benefits will arise through redevelopment in the blighted areas of central and northern Martinsville. The goal is to strategically utilize funds in areas of great need so that revitalized properties can create new local jobs. It is estimated that job creation of 50 to 150 positions would have an exponential positive effect on tax revenue and economic activity in the area.

Many times, redevelopment and reuse of smaller sites can be as important as the larger sites. These sites typically are located in downtown neighborhoods where losses of retail and commercial businesses have significant impacts on pride and safety of the local area. The vacant and decaying buildings cause safety issues, out-migration of other businesses, and downward spiraling property values. Redevelopment of brownfields can prevent or reverse these negative economic impacts. Successful redevelopment projects provide for a safer community, spur other property owners to repair their properties and provide a positive impact on the community.

In addition to economic benefits from this Brownfields Grant, there will also be benefits to overall quality of life for the City. This grant will help assess contamination and plan for remediation on properties, helping remove negative source constituents from the air, soil, and groundwater. Additionally, the grant will help plan for the redevelopment of some of the vacant industrial/commercial properties into open green space that will be enjoyed by the City residents.

ii. Job Creation Potential: Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs

Redevelopment of brownfields in the City with mixed-use commercial/residential redevelopments will create job opportunities for local residents as well as affordable housing opportunities. The sensitive community as well as other members of the community will be linked to job opportunities created by this new redevelopment. This will also help diversify the workforce, making it less dependent on the reduced manufacturing jobs. There is no local brownfield job training grant, but the City will work with the Southwestern Virginia Workforce Investment Board (SVWIB) to promote local hiring made available by this grant. The City will link residents to this organization to help them learn the skills needed to secure employment.

5. Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

a. Programmatic Capability

Martinsville is both excited and ready for the opportunity to administer its first federal Brownfields grant. There is a network of government officials in place to implement the program and invested community members and organizations to further increase the success of the Martinsville Brownfields program. The project director of these funds will be Mr. Wayne Knox, Director of Community Development for the City of Martinsville. Mr. Knox has over 40 years of community development experience, covering the breadth from neighborhood redevelopment, and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program, to the administration of

planning and zoning ordinances. Others on the brownfield project team are Chris Morris, City Engineer; Susan McCulloch, Community Planner, and Ted Anderson, Building Official/ Fire Chief. In addition to the experience of members of the local government, the EDC will be instrumental in providing tools and ideas. As discussed previously in Section 3c, the EDC has a mission statement quite similar to the purpose of the Brownfields funding.

As the project period will be for three years, all efforts will be made to ensure the connectedness and efficiency of the project from start to finish. Therefore, a team has been formed, pulling from various departments and portions of the city's government. Ideas will be shared, and communication will be key. In the event that a member of the team should leave, the others will have the knowledge to continue seamlessly with the project, and train the new team members.

These funds, while utilized solely within the City of Martinsville, have the potential to vastly improve the welfare of not only those within the city, but those in the surrounding Henry County.

The selected QEC will have EPA grant administration experience and will maintain a tight-knit relationship with the local government and community members for the entire three-year period of funding to ensure an efficient use of the grant.

b. Audit Findings - The city has not had any adverse grant audit findings.

c. Past Performance and Accomplishments

ii. Other Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements

Martinsville has never received a Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, or Cleanup Grant from the EPA. However, Martinsville has received a Virginia Brownfields Assistance Fund (VBAF) grant for a former manufacturing site that was acquired by the City. The manner in which this funding was used will be a good model for the use of the EPA Brownfields funds.

A Phase II ESA Addendum was performed at the former W.M. Bassett Industrial Site, owned by the Martinsville Housing & Redevelopment Authority. An initial Phase II ESA was performed on the Property and revealed PAH and PCB contamination. It is believed that due to similar background of this site with others, a large number of sites with similar issues are present in Martinsville. These sites will require both Phase I and Phase II ESAs, of which the Phase II ESAs may be large due to the sizes of these former operations.

Additionally, Martinsville has received funding from the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). In December 2013 Martinsville was chosen for a \$600,000 grant in order to revitalize the former Henry Hotel building. This planned redevelopment effort will help to create a cornerstone area to fuel future development and revitalization in the vicinity.

Safety is paramount in any locale, and a major disaster was declared in Martinsville after severe storms and straight-line winds hit at the end of June 2012 (DR-4072). In March 2013 a \$144,450 (federal portion) Hazard Mitigation Assistance Grant was given to the City in order to install a network of alert sirens. These eight sirens will be audible throughout the city limits, and will be utilized to warn residents of emergency situations.

Martinsville was able to pool over 16 million dollars from several sources for the New College Institute Expansion Project. The following organizations were included in the project: Harvest Foundation, VA Tobacco Commission, EDA, CDBG, Appalachian Regional Commission, and other private donors. For the Uptown Revitalization Project, approximately 1.4 million dollars were obtained from the following: CDBG, Harvest Foundation, and Phoenix CDC.

Appendix 3 Assessment Other Factors Checklist

Name of Applicant: City of Martinsville, Virginia

Please identify (with an *X*) which, if any of the below items apply to your community or your project as described in your proposal. To be considered for an Other Factor, you must include the page number where each applicable factor is discussed in your proposal. EPA will verify these disclosures prior to selection and may consider this information during the selection process. If this information is not clearly discussed in your narrative proposal or in any other attachments, it will not be considered during the selection process.

	Other Factor	Page #
	Community population is 10,000 or less.	
	Federally recognized Indian tribe.	
	United States territory.	
	Applicant will assist a Tribe or territory.	
	Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land.	
	Targeted brownfield sites are contaminated with controlled substances.	
X	Recent natural disaster(s) (2006 or later) occurred within community, causing significant community economic and environmental distress.	11
X	Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments.	8
	Applicant demonstrates firm leveraging commitments for facilitating brownfield project completion by identifying amounts and contributors of funding in the proposal and have included documentation.	
X	Community experienced manufacturing plant/power plant closure(s) (2008 or later) tied to the targeted brownfield sites or project area, including communities experiencing auto plant/power plant closures due to bankruptcy or economic disruptions.	5
	Recent (2008 or later) significant economic disruption (<u>unrelated</u> to a natural disaster or manufacturing/auto plant/power plant closure) has occurred within community, resulting in a significant percentage loss of community jobs and tax base.	
	Applicant is one of the 12 recipients, or a core partner/implementation strategy party, of a "manufacturing community" designation provided by the Economic Development Administration (EDA) under the Investing in Manufacturing Communities Partnership (IMCP). To be considered, applicants must clearly demonstrate in the proposal the nexus between their IMCP designation and the Brownfield activities. Additionally, applicants must attach documentation which demonstrate either designation as one of the 12 recipients, or relevant pages from a recipient's IMCP proposal which lists/describes the core partners and implementation strategy parties. A core partner/implementation strategy party is a local partner organization/jurisdiction that will carry out the proposed strategy, as demonstrated in letters of commitment or memoranda of understanding which documents their contributions, roles, and responsibilities to the partnership. EDA may provide to	

	EPA a list of the core partners/implementation strategy parties for each of the 12 “manufacturing community” designees, which EPA would use to verify this other factor.	
	Applicant will serve an area designated as a federal, state, or local Empowerment Zone or Renewal Community. To be considered, applicant must attach documentation which demonstrates this current designation.	
	Applicant is a recipient or a core partner of HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) grant funding or technical assistance that is directly tied to the proposed Brownfields project, and can demonstrate that funding from a PSC grant/technical assistance has or will benefit the project area. Examples of PSC grant or technical assistance include a HUD Regional Planning or Challenge grant, DOT Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER), or EPA Smart Growth Implementation or Building Blocks Assistance, etc. To be considered, applicant must attach documentation.	
	Applicant is a HUD Promise Zone community. To be considered, applicant must attach documentation.	
	Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant.	

ATTACHMENTS

ATTACHMENT A

Threshold Documentation

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

1. **Applicant Eligibility:** The City of Martinsville, Virginia is a local government entity and, as such, is an eligible applicant.
2. **Letter from the State or Tribal Authority:** A letter of support for this application was requested from the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and was received. Please see Attachment B.
3. **Community Involvement:** Four letters were received from community organizations committing to support and involvement of the Fredericksburg Brownfields Program. Please see Attachment C.
4. **Site Eligibility and Property Ownership Eligibility:** This application is for community-wide Hazardous Substances and Petroleum Assessment Grants. As such, this section is not applicable.

ATTACHMENT B

Letter from Virginia Department of Environmental Quality



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

Street address: 629 East Main Street, Richmond, Virginia 23219

Mailing address: P.O. Box 1105, Richmond, Virginia 23218

www.deq.virginia.gov

Molly Joseph Ward
Secretary of Natural Resources

David K. Paylor
Director

(804) 698-4000
1-800-592-5482

December 15, 2014

Wayne Knox
Community Development Director
55 West Church Street
P.O. Box 1112
Martinsville, Virginia 24114

Subject: City of Martinsville
U.S. EPA Community-Wide Hazardous Substances and
Petroleum Substances Assessment
Application RFP# EPA-OSWER-OBLR-14-07

Dear Mr. Knox:

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) is in receipt of your request for support to the above referenced Brownfields Grant application. As you are aware I have worked closely with the City of Martinsville on a number of projects over the last several years and the DEQ is pleased to add our support for the subject EPA grant proposal. Martinsville has a long and interesting industrial history once being a major and prosperous hub for tobacco products, furniture, textiles, and nylon manufacturing however much has changed over the last 40 years leaving this area with one of the most significant concentrations of brownfield sites in Virginia. Site Specific Assessment grant funds as well as Virginia Brownfields Assistance Fund monies have been utilized at a number of the targeted sites however further work is necessary to make these properties safe for reuse. DEQ realizes these grant funds are absolutely critical to moving sites forward and continuing the work already underway within Martinsville.

Identification, assessment, and cleanup of brownfield sites in the City of Martinsville will greatly benefit economic development of the area and help protect human health and the environment. Furthermore, without the ability to continue brownfields revitalization, the city cannot be the vibrant and environmental healthy community that will attract new citizens and businesses.

Page 2 of 2

Re: City of Martinsville
U.S. EPA Community-Wide Hazardous Substances and
Petroleum Substances Assessment
Application RFP# EPA-OSWER-OBLR-14-07

It is our sincere hope that the subject proposal will be successful. I look forward to working with you and the staff of Martinsville as these grant monies are utilized. If I can be of further assistance please don't hesitate to call me at (804) 698-4179.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JMR Anderson", written over a horizontal line.

J. Meade R. Anderson, CPG
Brownfields Program Manager

cc: Aziz Farahmand – DEQ-VRO

ATTACHMENT C

Community-Based Organization Project Involvement Letters



January 10, 2014

Mr. Tom Stolle
Regional Brownfields Coordinator
US Environmental Protection Agency, Region III
1650 Arch Street
Mail Code 3HS51
Philadelphia, PA 19103

Subject: City of Martinsville application for an EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant

Dear Mr. Stolle:

On behalf of Carilion Clinic please accept this letter of support for the City of Martinsville's application for the EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant for 2014.

Carilion Clinic has been actively involved with the City of Roanoke South Jefferson Redevelopment Area brownfields project which now houses the new Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and Research Institute along with our flagship multi-specialty Clinic. Information about the project can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/bf-lr/newsletter/2010-Winter/03-scrapstoscrubs.html>. Through work on this project I have come to a better understanding and respect for the positive impact redevelopment of brownfields can have on a city.

Carilion Clinic has clinics located in Martinsville so we understand the challenges it faces with high unemployment and an aging population. We fully support economic development in all areas we serve so the funding would help the City be able to put properties back into productive use for the benefit of the community.

We are pleased to support and endorse the City of Martinsville's application for an EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant. Receipt of federal funds would provide needed assistance to the City of Martinsville.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Mills'.

Curtis Mills
Senior Vice President

Martinsville

HENRY COUNTY VIRGINIA

Growing Your Business is Our Business.™

Mr. Leon Towarnicki
City Manager
City of Martinsville
55 West Church Street
Martinsville, VA. 24112

December 17, 2014

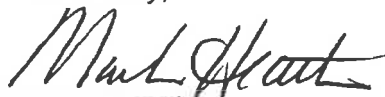
Dear Mr. Towarnicki:

The Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation would like to indicate support for the City's efforts to procure Federal grant funds to identify and begin planning for mitigation of brownfield sites in and near Uptown Martinsville. As you know, the EDC continues our work to support the revitalization efforts of the City of Martinsville. While many factors contribute to the difficulty we face in revitalizing this area, one key factor that discourages redevelopment is the inventory of vacant and underutilized sites. As many residents of Martinsville are aware, over the years many of these sites were automobile garages and repair businesses, as well as furniture factories. In some specific cases, the presence of environmental contamination or petroleum based contamination are well known. In other instances the properties sit vacant or underdeveloped and possible environmental issues are likely to contribute to this condition.

The opportunity to utilize grant funds to identify possible problem sites and begin to plan for mitigation of these sites would be a big boost to the efforts of the EDC to move forward aggressively and jump start redevelopment in and near the Uptown area of Martinsville.

This grant program is an exciting key to the continued renewal of Uptown Martinsville and the EDC wholeheartedly supports submission of this grant application and offers our support in hosting Brownfield public meetings when necessary.

Sincerely,



Mark Heath
President / CEO



West Piedmont Planning District Commission

P.O. Box 5268
Martinsville, VA 24115-5268
Phone: (276) 638-3987
Fax: (276) 638-8137
e-mail: staff@wppdc.org

Serving Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania Counties – Cities of Danville and Martinsville – Town of Rocky Mount – Since 1970

December 16, 2014

Mr. Leon Towarnicki
City Manager
City of Martinsville
55 West Church Street
Martinsville, VA. 24112

RE: *Statement of Support for the City of Martinsville's US EPA Brownfield Assessment Program Grant*

Dear Leon:

As a representative of the West Piedmont Planning District Commission – serving the cities of Martinsville and Danville; the counties of Franklin, Henry, Patrick, and Pittsylvania; and the Town of Rocky Mount – we support the efforts of the City of Martinsville to obtain funding to inventory sites in the City suspected of being contaminated. To this end, the Commission stands ready to assist in providing recommendations of sites identified through the assessment process. We also offer the use of our conference room as public meeting space and will provide time on the agendas of upcoming Commission meetings for updates on the City's assessment efforts.

Please accept this letter on behalf of the Commission in support of Martinsville's application for funding.

Respectfully,

David R. Hoback
Executive Director



"...preserving and promoting the natural and cultural resources of the Dan River Basin through stewardship, recreation, and education."

December 16, 2014

Mr. Leon Towarnicki
City Manager
City of Martinsville
55 West Church Street
Martinsville, VA. 24112

RE: Support for the City of Martinsville 's EPA Brownfield Assessment Program Grant

Mr. Towarnicki:

The Dan River Basin Association (DRBA) is a non-profit environmental organization with a mission to preserve and promote the cultural and natural resources of a bi-state region that includes; Martinsville, Henry County, and 15 adjoining counties. We are writing this letter in support of the City of Martinsville's efforts to obtain funding from the EPA to access sites in the City suspected of being contaminated with hazardous materials and petroleum.

We appreciate the efforts of the City of Martinsville in the mitigation of these sites and we will provide assistance as possible through our long standing partnership with the city. Our organization is dedicated to preservation, promotion and revitalization, and stands ready to assist municipalities on serious issues that threaten the health and vitality of our community and our water resources.

Please consider this letter on behalf of DRBA in support of the City of Martinsville's application for funding.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tiffany Haworth". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial 'T'.

Tiffany Haworth
Executive Director

ATTACHMENT D

Documentation of Leveraged Funds



Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

James S. Cheng
Secretary of Commerce
and Trade

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

William C. Shelton
Director

June 30, 2011

Mr. Clarence C. Monday
City Manager
City of Martinsville
Post Office Box 1112
Martinsville, Virginia 24114-1112

RE: Community Improvement Grant #10-17
Uptown Martinsville Business
District Revitalization Project
Contract Execution

Dear Mr. Monday:

We have completed all steps necessary for the execution of your Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) contract.

Enclosed are two signed originals of the contract. Please sign both originals and return one original to me. You will note a notary public must notarize your signature. Also, please note that there are two copies of assurances which require your signature.

Thank you for your cooperation, and we look forward to working with you during implementation of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Denise H. Ambrose".

Denise H. Ambrose
Associate Director

Enclosures

cc: Wayne Knox, City of Martinsville
Susan McCulloch, City of Martinsville
Brad Belo, DHCD

Partners for Better Communities



www.dhcd.virginia.gov

CONTRACT #10-17**AGREEMENT**

This AGREEMENT, entered into as of this **30th day of June, 2011**, by and between the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development hereinafter referred to as "DHCD" and the City of Martinsville hereinafter referred to as "GRANTEE."

WITNESSETH

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia has been authorized to distribute and administer Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds pursuant to the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, and

WHEREAS, DHCD has been authorized by the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia to distribute and administer CDBG funds in the form of COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS (CIG) according to the CDBG Program Design, and

WHEREAS, the PROJECT as described in the Community Improvement Grant Proposal as submitted by the GRANTEE has achieved a sufficiently high ranking through a competitive proposal selection system to qualify for Community Improvement Grant funding on the basis of the CDBG Program Design,

Now THEREFORE, the above-mentioned parties hereto do mutually agree as follows:

1. DHCD agrees to award the GRANTEE a COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT in an amount of the total allowable, eligible costs in carrying out the ACTIVITIES included in Products herein described not to exceed \$691,325.00 (six hundred ninety-one thousand three hundred twenty-five dollars).
2. DHCD agrees to provide the GRANTEE with technical assistance in setting up and carrying out the administration of its COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANT.
3. The GRANTEE will commence, carry out and complete the following Products (more thoroughly described in the GRANTEE'S CIG Proposal).

PROJECT TITLE: Uptown Martinsville Business District Revitalization Project

OUTCOMES: The Uptown business district revitalization will be achieved through the elimination of physical blight, the removal of barriers to economic revitalization, the promotion of private economic investment and the redefinition of the Uptown business district's economic base.

BENEFITS:

At least twenty-three private properties will be improved and at least seven and a half full-time equivalent jobs will be created, fifty-one percent of which will be held by low- to moderate-income persons.

PRODUCT(S):

1. Implementation of an economic restructuring plan that ensures the long-term sustainability of the Uptown area;
2. Façade improvements to twenty-three blighted structures;
3. Blight remediation of three vacant lots;
4. Installation of a gateway at the Fayette and Moss intersection, including signage, landscaping and lighting;
5. Expansion of the existing loan fund in accordance with CDBG guidelines and the creation of seven and a half full-time equivalent jobs, of which fifty-one percent will be low- to moderate-income jobs, resulting from business expansion or creation funded through the revolving loan fund;
6. Streetscape improvements, including the installation of approximately:
 - a. Forty-three curb ramps,
 - b. Seven crosswalks,
 - c. Eighteen street and other lights,
 - d. 5,800 square feet of unit pavers,
 - e. 700 face feet of decorative wall or fence and retaining walls,
 - f. 600 cubic yards of imported fill,
 - g. 1,850 square feet of concrete sidewalk,
 - h. Trees, shrubs, seeding, mulch, and sculptural element at Courthouse square and Trailhead.

4. The aforementioned PROJECT shall be carried out, and grant payments made in strict conformance with the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS.
5. The GRANTEE will use the lesser of (1) the amount specified above, or (2) if, at total PROJECT completion, there are cost underruns or project savings, these costs shall revert to the Department of Housing and Community Development and other funding sources committed to the PROJECT in the CIG proposal on a proportional basis, unless superseded by other federal program requirements. In no case will leveraged funds be returned beyond that amount which would have changed the PROJECT'S ability to be funded initially.
6. The GRANTEE will initiate the PRODUCT(S) required by the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS beginning **June 30, 2011**, unless grant Special Conditions require additional action on specified PRODUCT(S) before proceeding with that PRODUCT(S). In such instances the GRANTEE will initiate action relative to removal of the Special Conditions beginning with the execution of this AGREEMENT.
7. The GRANTEE shall complete the work as described in the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS within **24 months** of the execution of this AGREEMENT, or more specifically on or before **June 30, 2013**. If the PRODUCTS are not completed by that date all CIG funding and this AGREEMENT shall be terminated and the Grantee shall return all unexpended funds, unless an amendment to the CONTRACT DOCUMENT provides otherwise.
8. DHCD agrees to make payment to the GRANTEE upon receipt of a properly completed and signed invoice. Requests for Payment may be made, allowing approximately twenty-one days to receive the funds. Funds are to be immediately disbursed by the GRANTEE and shall not be deposited in an interest-bearing account.
9. The term CONTRACT DOCUMENTS means the following documents which are a part of this AGREEMENT and are incorporated by reference herein as if set out in full.
 - A. GRANTEE'S CIG Proposal (including revisions);
 - B. AGREEMENT;
 - C. SPECIAL CONDITIONS;
 - D. GENERAL CONDITIONS;
 - E. ASSURANCES;
 - F. AMENDMENTS;
 - G. CIG GRANT MANAGEMENT MANUAL (Those items specified as being required);
 - H. CIG CONTRACT NEGOTIATION RECORD;
 - I. PROJECT MANAGEMENT PLAN;
 - J. PROGRAM INCOME PLAN; and
 - K. ANY PROJECT SPECIFIC PLAN AND/OR PROGRAM DESIGN.

In witness whereof, the parties hereto have executed or caused to be executed by their duly authorized official this AGREEMENT in duplicate, each copy of which will be deemed an original.

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

BY: 
Lisa A. Atkinson, Deputy Director

DATE: 7.12.11

City of Richmond,
Commonwealth of Virginia

I do certify that Lisa A. Atkinson personally appeared before me and made oath that she is Deputy Director of the Department of Housing and Community Development and that she is duly authorized to execute the foregoing document.

My commission expires: April 30, 2012


Given under my hand this 12th day of July, 2011.


Notary Public

7167268
Registration Number



CITY OF MARTINSVILLE

BY: 
Clarence C. Monday, City Manager


DATE: 7-14-11

City/County/Town of _____,
Commonwealth of Virginia

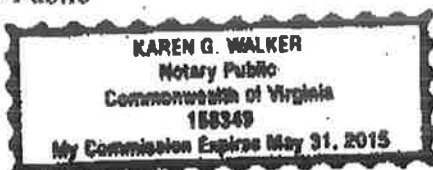
I do certify that Clarence C. Monday personally appeared before me and made oath that he is the City Manager of the City of Martinsville and that he/she is duly authorized to execute the foregoing document.

My commission expires: 5-31-15

Given under my hand this 14th day of July, 2011.


Notary Public

158349
Registration Number



SPECIAL CONDITIONS

1. A total of **\$325,043.00** in leverage funds is committed to this project by the GRANTEE. Sources of funds are as follows:

City	\$164,500.00
<u>Private</u>	<u>\$190,543.00</u>
TOTAL	\$325,043.00

These funds shall be expended prior to or in proportion to Community Improvement Grant Funds within the budget, per activity.

Documentation on the expenditure of these funds shall be maintained by the GRANTEE and reported to DHCD with each monthly report and at project closeout.

2. The Project Management Team shall meet regularly (at least monthly) to properly monitor the Project's progress. The Team will review its Project Management Plan to determine if the project is being implemented according to the projected plan. The plan will be updated promptly in recognition of a deviation from projections and DHCD will be notified.
3. DHCD reserves the right to end funding at any point should the project prove nonviable. This includes, but may not be limited to, lack of progress in conformance with the approved Project Management Plan.
4. Monthly progress reports must be submitted to DHCD. These reports must document funds expended and obligated to date and the actions taken on key benchmarks that support the successful completion of the project.
5. DHCD reserves the right to receive additional documentation pertaining to construction, professional service, non-professional service or other contracts obligating CDBG funds prior to approving drawdown requests.



Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

James S. Cheng
Secretary of
Commerce and Trade

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

William C. Shelton
Director

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT


November 10, 2011

Wayne Knox
Director of Community Development
City of Martinsville
PO Box 1112
Martinsville, VA 2411

Dear Mr. Knox

This letter is to confirm that DHCD has set aside \$263,588.89 in federal Housing and Urban Development (HUD) funds for the City of Martinsville to participate in Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP3).

Funds are to acquire, rehabilitate and resell foreclosed properties in eligible census tracts within the City, and to then resell or transfer these properties to eligible low, moderate and middle-income families.

Sincerely,

Douglas Ellis
Grant Administrator

Partners for Better Communities



www.dhcd.virginia.gov



Robert F. McDonnell
Governor

James S. Cheng
Secretary of Commerce
and Trade

COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

William C. Shelton
Director

September 6, 2013

The Honorable Kim Adkins
Mayor
City of Martinsville
P.O. Box 1112
Martinsville, Virginia 24114

RE: 2013 CDBG Planning Grants
Northside Neighborhood Comprehensive Project

Dear Mayor Adkins:

We have reviewed the City's request for CDBG Planning Grant assistance for the proposed Northside Neighborhood Comprehensive Project. We are prepared to offer planning grant assistance for developing this project and have reserved \$3,000 in Planning Grant funding to reimburse the City for completion of the following activities by November 5, 2013.

1. Completion of an initial public meeting

The City must schedule a public meeting to give citizens an overview of the proposed project. Citizens must be informed about the City's intentions to assess housing condition and the feasibility of a rehabilitation program within the proposed project area and to survey residents and/or potential beneficiaries to confirm needs and income status. Citizens must also be informed of potential future activities under the Study, including additional public and management team meetings and completion of housing inspections and engineering assessments in the project area. The City must disclose that future Planning Grant and Community Improvement Grant funding depends on completion of these initial activities. At this meeting, energized neighborhood leaders called "sparkplugs" must be identified and included as members of the management team.

2. Completion of an initial management team meeting

The City must identify key stakeholders and secure their commitment in serving on a project management team. The management team must include, at a minimum, the City Manager, a representative from the West Piedmont Planning District Commission, the grant administrator, the local building official, a housing rehabilitation specialist, and at least two neighborhood representatives. At this initial meeting, management team members must help the City to develop a plan for completing these initial Planning Grant activities.

3. Completion of preliminary housing assessment

The City must identify the housing needs within its proposed project area. The City must complete, tabulate, and summarize a windshield survey to include assessments of all buildings (commercial, vacant, public facility, and so on) within the proposed project area. The City must

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investigate other relevant sources of information on project area living conditions, such as reports by the local building official.

4. Completion of neighborhood surveys

The City must complete a survey of the proposed project area to assess need and demand of the residents, and the income of the residents. The City must survey ALL of the households in the project area to determine household needs. The City must analyze the results to ascertain the eligibility, need, and demand for the project and compile a written summary of survey results. The City should seek to prioritize the level of need in order to develop a manageable project. This prioritization may occur during future phases of the planning grant.

5. Completion of infrastructure assessment

The City must complete a preliminary assessment of existing water, sewer, drainage, and road conditions and how the present condition is impacting living conditions. The City must prepare a written summary of the findings of the assessment.

6. Completion of a second management team meeting

The City must schedule a meeting of the management team wherein members can review the results of the preliminary building and infrastructure assessments and surveys to better define the project. Potential project activities and plan of action should be discussed at this meeting.

Upon completion of the neighborhood survey, the preliminary assessments, and initial general public and management team meetings, the City must submit a copy of the survey instrument, the tabulated survey results, and the summary of assessment activities to DHCD. The City must submit this information by the November 5, 2013 deadline noted above. The responses must be submitted online using the Agency's Centralized Application and Management System (CAMS). If you have questions about how to access or use CAMS, please get in touch.

Once DHCD has received and reviewed the response detailing the results of the above steps, a determination will be made as to the viability and eligibility of the proposed project. If the project is determined to be viable and eligible, DHCD will notify the City and assign a Community Development Specialist to conduct a Facilitated Planning Strategy session with the Management Team. The purpose of this meeting is threefold: 1) To discuss with the Management Team and key stakeholders the necessary activities that need to take place to complete the planning grant; (2) Determine the timeframe for completion of these activities; and (3) Determine which individual will be responsible for completing each activity.

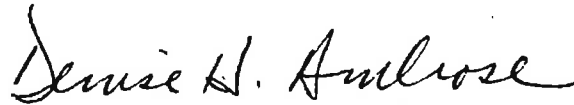
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING the Facilitated Planning Strategy meeting, the local government must submit a CDBG Planning Grant proposal. This proposal must be prepared in accordance with the instructions of the 2013 CDBG Planning Grants Prospectus and Proposal Format.

If the City completes the activities outlined above (# 1-6) by November 5, 2013, the local government will have access to the \$3,000 reserved. The actual funding amount, not to exceed a total of \$30,000, will be dependent upon costs to complete the identified and agreed upon activities. If the local government fails to complete the identified activities and/or fails to submit a Planning Grant proposal, no Planning Grant funding will be awarded.

Should you have any questions, please call Chris Thompson or Matt Weaver at (804) 371-7061.

Ms. Kim Adkins
September 6, 2013
Page 3 of 3

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Denise H. Ambrose". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Denise" and last name "Ambrose" clearly legible.

Denise H. Ambrose
Associate Director

cc: Leon E. Towarnicki, City Manager, City of Martinsville
Aaron Burdick, West Piedmont PDC
Joanne Peerman, DHCD
Tonya Thomas, DHCD
Traci Munyan, DHCD
Chris Thompson, DHCD
Matt Weaver, DHCD

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Region III
One Independence Mall, 6th Floor
615 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106-4404



FEMA

Mr. Michael Cline
State Coordinator
Virginia Department of Emergency Management
10501 Trade Court
Richmond, Virginia 23236-3713

AUG 20 2013

Re: FEMA-DR-4042-VA-001
Project Approval
Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP)

Dear Mr. Cline:


I am pleased to inform you that the project application City of Martinsville Installation of 8 Warning Sirens, (FEMA-DR-4042-VA-001) has been approved. This project proposes to purchase and install eight (8) tornado-warning sirens throughout the city.

The total cost is \$192,600 with a federal share of \$144,450 and a non-federal share of \$48,150; the federal share amount should be available in the SMARTLINK system. Enclosed is a copy of the obligation and management reports for your files.

In implementing this project, Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM), as the grantee, shall ensure that City of Martinsville, the sub grantee, complies with the FEMA State Agreement for DR-4042 and all applicable laws, assurances and guidance. The Period of Performance (POP) is for two (2) years, ending on September 30, 2015. Please provide our office with a quarterly report thirty days after the end of each federal fiscal year quarter.

If you have any questions concerning this project, please contact Cristina Pop, FEMA Region III Mitigation Project Officer at (215) 931-5656.

Sincerely,



Eugene K. Gruber, P.E.
Director, Mitigation Division

Enclosures

cc: Matthew Wall, State Hazard Mitigation Officer
Janice Barlow, Director, Grants Division



August 7, 2012

Mr. Chris Thompson
Policy Manager
Department of Housing and Community Development
Main Street Centre
600 East Main Street, Suite 300
Richmond, VA 23219

Re: Letter of Interest – New College Institute
City of Martinsville

Dear Mr. Thompson:

The City of Martinsville, in cooperation with New College Institute, is seeking planning grant funds from DHCD to assess the needs of the community in relationship to the College's expansion plans. Local officials and NCI representatives have met many times to discuss goals and initiatives required in the region to provide new workforce training opportunities, further educational and research components, and provide additional technical expertise. The required groundwork for this project has been laid and the City is preparing to move into the implementation stage.

New College Institute (NCI) established in 2006, is a state-funded educational entity that provides access to bachelor's degree completion programs, master's degrees, teacher endorsement programs, teacher recertification courses, and more through partnerships with colleges and universities. These partners include James Madison University, Old Dominion University, the University of Virginia, and Virginia Commonwealth University, to name a few. NCI also collaborates with institutions within the region such as Averett University, Ferrum College, and Patrick Henry Community College. Most recently, NCI announced a partnership with Virginia State University, a land grant university, with a focus on advanced manufacturing and engineering programs. NCI combines the best of traditional academia with innovative pedagogy. Modeled after current and emerging best practices in business and industry, NCI employs top-of-the-line instructional methods to educate individuals, including a significant and critical hands-on experience.

Project Elements:

Advanced Manufacturing Simulation Laboratory: Through a partnership with the College of Engineering, Science, and Technology at Virginia State University and regional manufacturers (including RTI International Metals and Commonwealth Laminating), students will apply classroom knowledge in a real-world, real-time way. Students will design projects that will integrate technology into data analysis and apply that information to manipulate equipment that simulates industry practice occurring in the region. This initiative will incorporate three high-bay simulation laboratories to allow faculty and students to apply classroom theory into practice using Siemens “backbone” software to manipulate and interpret data into engineering design. These experiences will be enhanced by student internships within the very businesses being emulated in the classroom and laboratory.

Fabrication Laboratory: New College Institute is partnering with Patrick Henry Community College and the Martinsville-Henry County Economic Development Corporation to provide space for a "fabrication" laboratory. This "Fab" Lab will offer assistance to entrepreneurs, manufacturers, students, and others in the region to design, test, and build unique products and develop other manufacturing ideas. A three dimensional printer, vinyl and laser cutters, and a computer numeric control (CNC) machine will be included in the lab equipment. Additive manufacturing (also known as 3-D printing) has the potential to become a transformative technology in innovation-based manufacturing. The Fab Lab will enable entrepreneurs and others to develop product prototypes and help small businesses to grow and stimulate the local economy. In addition, the lab will be an asset to area school systems with its relevance to the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) curricula. Currently, only 22 Fab Labs are located in the U.S.; this will be the first in Virginia and can be used as a model for future lab development in the Commonwealth. Implementation of this research, equipment and state-of-the-art technology, and workforce training and career pathways programming will strongly contribute to the expansion of advanced manufacturing and assist in the development of assets to boost global competitiveness in the region.

Next-Generation Healthcare: As rural Virginia faces significant healthcare workforce challenges, including a shortage and geographic mal-distribution of primary and specialty care providers, NCI will partner with the University of Virginia's Center for Telehealth and other institutions to train 250 healthcare providers to utilize telemedicine technology to bring clinical care at a distance to medically underserved populations. Telehealth increases access to primary care and improves health outcomes for patients within high-priority target areas.

Entrepreneurship: Building upon the DaVinci Center for Innovation model at the Virginia Commonwealth University, NCI will offer programs across every academic major to expose students and the community to entrepreneurial ideas and experiences. Students will work as interdisciplinary teams to create solutions for real-world issues and present their projects to the community and stakeholders for feedback.

Needs: Planning grant assistance will allow Martinsville and NCI to obtain more targeted information to help define existing gaps in workforce, map out training and certification courses to fill these gaps, gain support and participation from local and regional employers, and assess the interest level from prospective students. Planning funds will also be used to prepare detailed cost estimates in a Preliminary Engineering Report for the New College Institute expansion project.

Timeliness: NCI is now six years old and serves as an innovative and cost-effective model for how to increase access to higher education throughout the Commonwealth through public-private partnerships. In order to continue to meet the ever-changing needs in the education arena, NCI proposes to create a physical and virtual hub for best practices in program delivery, technology use and pedagogy. Dewberry Engineering in Danville, Virginia was retained to prepare a preliminary building design, including conceptual drawings and a site design plan. Site utility and existing topography mapping have been completed and are being used to develop schematic site plans. Numerous meetings have been held with identified partners/stakeholders as well as community based organizations such as the NAACP and concerned citizens from the area. Input from these meetings has been included in site-development plans. NCI is partnering with the City of Martinsville to develop this project and will work in cooperation with the City throughout the process to insure a successful implementation of the project.

Your assistance with this project will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kim E. Adkins". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Kim" and last name "Adkins" clearly distinguishable.

Kim Adkins
Mayor

